

A look at the first century church 6-01

Feast of Passover, Unleavened Bread, First Fruits

■ The 1st Century Church series

■ Series subjects:

- ◆ 1. The importance of God's Word, and "words" (Heb 4:12).
- ◆ 2. The sources used by Jesus and the disciples
- ◆ 3. The 1st century churches had NO New Testament, only the Hebrew Scriptures.
- ◆ 4. First Century church "services", Constantine - Roman Emperor, introduced the recognition of buildings as churches. Why anything Jewish was removed from the church. Syncretism defined. Church councils still fighting Jewish influences seven hundred years later.
- ◆ 5. The Scriptural definitions of 3 words: Righteousness, Covenant, and Holiness.
- ◆ 6. Passover, Unleavened Bread, Day of Firstfruits, 3 "connected" feasts.
- ◆ 7. Shavuot or Pentecost.
- ◆ 8. Rosh HaShannah, Yom Kippur, and Sukkot or Feast of Tabernacles.

A look at the first century church 6-02

Feast of Passover, Unleavened Bread, First Fruits

- **Passover** is first of the 3 “connected” feasts.
- **Question:** What are the most essential parts of Pesach, or Pass-Over?
- Meaning of “Pesach”: to "**leap over and show mercy**".
- **Three things are important in the Pesach story**
 - ◆ **The Matzah,** (the unleavened bread)
 - ◆ **The Maror,** (the bitter herbs)
 - ◆ **The Pesach Lamb.** (the lamb was eaten standing)

A look at the first century church 6-03

Feast of Passover, Unleavened Bread, First Fruits

- **The Seder meal:**
- a Big part of the Seder is “THE TELLING” before the Pesach Meal is served.
- **The Telling – The “Hagada”** includes the 4 cups, three with water and wine, and one with full strength wine.
- The third cup, **Redemption**, is taken after the Pesach Meal, *Shulchan Orech*, has been served.

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Feast of Passover, Unleavened Bread, First Fruits

- **After the meal**, the hidden Afikomen (the center piece of Matza), is located and broken.
- In the Matzah we see a picture of Yeshua HaMashiach, born in the Beit Lechem, the "house of bread",
- Afikomen is a Greek term. It literally means: "the one who came", was a title of Yeshua the Messiah.
- **Breaking the Matzah – Yachatz**
- **The Maror, The Bitter Herbs**, on this night we remember how bitter life became for the Children of Israel in the land of Egypt.

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Feast of Passover, Unleavened Bread, First Fruits

- **Why We Dip Twice - The Kharoset"**
- **We dip the Maror into the Kharoset to remind ourselves that even the most bitter circumstances can be sweetened by the hope we have in YHVH, our GOD.**
- **"...Why Tonight We Eat in Leisure"**
- **On this night we eat in leisure, in contrast to those at the first Pesach who were a people enslaved and eating in great haste.**
- *** Response * Once we were slaves, but now we are free in Yeshua!**

A look at the first century church 6-06

Feast of Passover, Unleavened Bread, First Fruits

- **The Pesach Lamb.**
- *"The blood will be a sign for you on the houses where you are; and when I see the blood, I will pass over you. No destructive plague will touch you when I strike Egypt." (Exodus 12:8, 11, 13)*
- **We are reminded by Moses that it was YHVH Himself who redeemed the Children of Israel from slavery.**
- *"So YHVH brought us out of Egypt with a mighty hand and an outstretched arm, with great terror and with miraculous signs and wonders." (Deuteronomy 26:8)*

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Feast of Passover, Unleavened Bread, First Fruits

- We trust Yeshua HaMashiach, and believe He is the Lamb of YHVH, our Pesach.
- Like the ancient Israelites, we know that it was **YHVH Himself**, and **NOT a messenger**, who achieved final redemption from sin and death.
- It is **YHVH Himself through Yeshua**, Who redeems the world from sin!
- **One lamb for each household!**
- **Each household needs Jesus, The Lamb!**

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Feast of Passover, Unleavened Bread, First Fruits

- **Pass-over - prophetic fulfillment**
- During the second Temple time, for centuries the Jews would travel a great distance to come to Jerusalem to observe the holiday.
- They would go to the Temple area to select a lamb.
- The priest would indicate a lamb by pointing to the animal and say: “Behold the lamb”.
- John the Baptizer, “son of a Priest” saw Yeshua coming in the distance, pointed and said: “Behold the Lamb the lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world”. Connecting Yeshua’s coming to Pesach. (John 1:29).
- The Apostle Paul states in 1 Cor. 5:7, “**Yeshua, our Passover** is sacrificed for us”.

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Feast of Passover, Unleavened Bread, First Fruits

- Pass-over
- The angel of death **passes over** those "houses" covered with **blood of "The Lamb"** on the "door-way",
- The Matzot, unleavened bread contains No "leaven", no yeast like agents, and is in a sense "uncontaminated" pure bread.
- The Matzot reminds us that He had **stripes** and was **pierced**.
- He had "**stripes**" because He was whipped (39x).
- The piece of Matza which is hidden (center piece of the 3), is called "Afikomen". A Greek term literally means: "**the one who came**".

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Feast of Passover, Unleavened Bread, First Fruits

- **4 cups** At Pesach, we celebrate by drinking from our cups four times.
- The first cup is **Sanctification**, showing that we *set ourselves aside for YHVH's purpose* only.
- The second cup is **Deliverance**,
- The third is **Redemption**,
- The fourth is the **Praise** cup of the Kingdom.
- With each cup, we will remember the intimate union that YHVH desires with **each of us**.

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Feast of Passover, Unleavened Bread, First Fruits

- **1st cup: Sanctification**
- As we add water to this first cup we remember the blood and water that flowed from the altar of YHVH into the Kidron Valley as the priests washed the altar after the sacrifices
- **2nd cup: Deliverance**
- A full cup is a symbol of joy and on this occasion we **rejoice at YHVH's mighty deliverance.**
- *add water to this our second cup, we remember how at Yeshua' death the blood and water flowed from His side when the soldier pierced it. (John 19:34)*

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Feast of Passover, Unleavened Bread, First Fruits

- **3rd cup: Redemption,**
- This **cup of Redemption** symbolizes the Pesach lamb's blood. When an engaged couple sealed their engagement, they drank from a **cup of engagement**, also called a Cup of Redemption.
- This 3rd **cup of Redemption** is known in The Gentile church as The **Lord's Supper, or Communion.**
- We also remember the wedding at Cana where Yeshua changed the water into wine. (John 2:7-10) (note: 1st miracle in the gospel of John).
- On the cross Yeshua did indeed drink the cup of Redemption in the sour wine He was given. **Mat 27:34** They gave him vinegar to drink mingled with gall: and when he had tasted *thereof*, he would not drink.

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Feast of Passover, Unleavened Bread, First Fruits

- **4th cup: Praise**
- **Father:** We fill our cups for the fourth and last time. **This last time let the wine be strong and undiluted** as we give thanks to YHVH.
- A time is coming when Yeshua HaMashiach, our Kinsman Redeemer, will drink this cup with us and His Kingdom will be established forever! **Mat 26:29 But I say unto you, I will not drink henceforth of this fruit of the vine, until that day when I drink it new with you in my Father's kingdom.**
- Let us lift our cups and bless the Name of YHVH!

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Feast of Passover, Unleavened Bread, First Fruits

- Our Pesach is now complete, just as our redemption is now forever complete.
- Our Bridegroom has departed, but His Spirit is with us continually. May it be soon that The Father sends Yeshua for us.
- Let us conclude with the wish that we may celebrate Pesach with our Beloved Kinsman Redeemer in our Father's House.
- *** Response * Come, LORD Yeshua -- Our Beloved Kinsman Redeemer! Next year in Jerusalem!**

A look at the first century church 6-15

Feast of Passover, Unleavened Bread, First Fruits

- **Christ our Passover**, *1 Cor 5:7 Purge out therefore the old leaven, that ye may be a new lump, as ye are unleavened. For even Christ our passover is sacrificed for us:*
- On Passover YHVH (ADONAI, Lord), **Himself through Yeshua**, redeems the world from sin!
- The angel of death passes over those "houses" covered with **blood of "The Lamb"** on the "door-way".
- Jesus is "the DOOR", and is the **ONLY way** to The Father because **of His blood**. *Acts 4:12, Neither is there salvation in any other: for there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved.*
- Jesus, (Yeshuah), His name means: **"SALVATION"**.

A look at the first century church 6-16

Feast of Passover, Unleavened Bread, First Fruits

- **FEAST of Unleavened bread - Leviticus 23:6-8**
- **1 whole week: from 15th of Nisan to 22nd of Nisan.**
- **Lev 23:6** And on the fifteenth day of the same month *is* the feast of unleavened bread unto the LORD: seven days ye must eat unleavened bread.
- **Leaven frequently represents evil.**
- **1Cor 5:6-8** 6 Your glorying *is* not good. Know ye not that a little leaven leaveneth the whole lump? 7 Purge out therefore the old leaven, that ye may be a new lump, as ye are unleavened. For even Christ our passover is sacrificed for us: 8 Therefore let us keep the feast, not with old leaven, neither with **the leaven of malice and wickedness**; but with the **unleavened bread of sincerity and truth**.
- **Mat 16:11-12** How is it that ye do not understand that I spake *it* not to you concerning bread, that ye should beware of the leaven of the Pharisees and of the Sadducees? **12** Then understood they how that he bade *them* not beware of the leaven of bread, but of **the doctrine of the Pharisees and of the Sadducees** *). *) See note at end presentation

A look at the first century church 6-17

Feast of Passover, Unleavened Bread, First Fruits

- **FEAST of Unleavened bread - continued**
- **Command to eat Matzot for 7 days during Pesach (Ex. 12:18).**
- **The Matzot, unleavened bread contains No “leaven”, no yeast like agents, and is in a sense “uncontaminated” pure bread.**
- **The Matzot teaches us that Yeshua, Jesus, is pure, unblemished Lamb of God, and uncontaminated from this world, the ONLY perfect and acceptable sacrifice.**

A look at the first century church 6-18

Feast of Passover, Unleavened Bread, First Fruits

- **DAY of First Fruits**
- **He was Resurrected after 3 days and 3 nights, sign of Jonah.**
Mat 12:40 Sign of Jonas.
- **The very FIRST new Man with a Glorified Body,**
- **now sitting as HIGH Priest in the very presence of The Father.**
- **HIGH Priest in the order of Melchizedek: King of Righteousness, Prince of Peace.**

A look at the first century church 6-19

Feast of Passover, Unleavened Bread, First Fruits

- **DAY of First Fruits**
- **First of Barley harvest was brought as offering.**
- **Priest presents first of Barley harvest unto The Lord.**
- **Barley is waved back and forth.**
- **Reminds the Hebrews that God gave the land, and the harvest belonged to Him.**

A look at the first century church 6-20

Feast of Passover, Unleavened Bread, First Fruits

- **DAY of First Fruits - Messianic Significance**
- **First of Barley harvest was brought as offering, Jesus is The Firstfruits (1 Cor 15:20-23).**
- **Jesus marked the beginning of the harvest of souls
John 12:23-24, 32**
- **Jesus was likened to a grain of wheat falling to the ground and dying to produce a great harvest.**
- **Jesus arose on First Fruits.**

A look at the first century church 6-21

Feast of Passover, Unleavened Bread, First Fruits

- Resurrection and “Good Friday”.
- On the 3rd day he rose Joh 2:19 Jesus answered and said unto them, Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up. 20 Then said the Jews, Forty and six years was this temple in building, and wilt thou rear it up in three days?
- On the 1st day of the week, Mar 16:9 Now when *Jesus* was risen early the first *day* of the week, he appeared first to Mary Magdalene, out of whom he had cast seven devils.
- The sign of Jonah, (Jonas), 3 days and 3 nights, Mat 12:40 For as Jonas was three days and three nights in the whale's belly; so shall the Son of man be three days and three nights in the heart of the earth.
- Jesus gave a sign: That particular year there would be 3 days and 3 nights between the crucifixion and Resurrection.
- “Good Wednesday” satisfies the 3 days AND 3 nights.

A look at the first century church 6-22

Feast of Passover, Unleavened Bread, First Fruits

- **Crucifixion and Last Supper on the same day?**
- How could Jesus have had the “Last Supper” with His disciples and also be crucified on the same date, the evening before Passover, which is the beginning of Nisan 14th. Later on Nisan 14th, the priests would sacrifice the lambs at the 9th hour the time of the evening sacrifice (3pm).
- **Answer:** The Graduation meal. A Jewish rabbi would hold a graduation meal with his students / disciples at the end of the teaching period of The Teacher.
- Jesus, the Teacher, (Rabbi), had His LAST SUPPER with His disciples the evening before Passover. (technically at the very “beginning” of Nissan 14, after the sun had set).

A look at the first century church 6-23

Feast of Passover, Unleavened Bread, First Fruits

- **Passover connection with the BLOOD COVENANT**
- Yeshua said the Matzot represented His body, which would be given as a sacrifice for us. **Matt. 26:26**
- When God made a Blood Covenant with Abraham, **Abram spent his blood, and every male offspring after him born into the Covenant.** New born males would be circumcised on the 8th day to fulfill “the requirement of The Torah”. **Luk 2:21** And **when eight days were accomplished for the circumcising of the child,** his name was called JESUS, which was so named of the angel before he was conceived in the womb.
- **God spent His blood some 2000 years later when Yeshua went to the Cross and purchased back what Adam had lost.**
- A closer look shows that Jesus spent His blood in 7 areas, to bring healing to 7 areas in the live of each believer. **) note1, see end presentation, the book: “Free at Last”,*

A look at the first century church 6-24

Feast of Passover, Unleavened Bread, First Fruits

- Prophetic picture for the individual Believer.
- Passover is a **fore-shadowing of the Christian's live**
- The meaning in Passover for the Christians in our day:
- **Coming out of bondage (Egypt), sea crossing is 1st baptism (water).**
- Traveling thru the Wilderness.
- **River Crossing is 2nd Baptism following the Ark, (Spirit).**
- Entering into the Promised Land, **battles with 7 nations.**
- **7 nations: Hittites (fear), Gergashites (rejection), Amorties (Worthlessness), Canaanites (shame), Perizzites (insecurity), Hivites (defilement), Jebusites (hopelessness).** ** note2, see end presentation, the book: "Healing the wounded heart".

A look at the first century church 6-25

Feast of Passover, Unleavened Bread, First Fruits

■ **Notes - Doctrine of the Pharisees and of the Sadducees:**

- The Gospels refer often to the Sadducees and Pharisees.
- **Jesus was in constant conflict with them.**
- The Sadducees and Pharisees comprised the ruling class of Israel.
- Many similarities but also important differences between the two groups.

■ **The Sadducees:**

- Sadducees were aristocrats and tended to be wealthy.
- Held powerful positions, including that of chief priests and high priest,
- Held the majority of the 70 seats of the ruling council called the Sanhedrin.
- Seemed to be **more concerned with politics** than religion.
- Did not relate well to the common man,
- Common man related better to those who belonged to the party of the Pharisees
- Sadducees had to go along with the ideas of the Pharisaic minority, because the Pharisees were popular with the masses.

A look at the first century church 6-26

Feast of Passover, Unleavened Bread, First Fruits

- **Notes - Doctrine of the Pharisees and of the Sadducees:**
- **A brief list of beliefs Sadducees held that contradict Scripture:**
 1. Were extremely self-sufficient, and denying God's involvement in everyday life.
 2. Denied any resurrection of the dead ([Matthew 22:23](#); [Mark 12:18-27](#); [Acts 23:8](#)).
 3. Denied any afterlife, holding that the soul perished at death, and therefore denying any penalty or reward after the earthly life.
 4. Denied the existence of a spiritual world, i.e., angels and demons ([Acts 23:8](#)).

Were more concerned with politics than religion, they were unconcerned with Jesus until they became afraid He might bring unwanted Roman attention. It was at this point that the Sadducees and Pharisees united and conspired to put Christ to death ([John 11:48-50](#); [Mark 14:53](#); [15:1](#))

A look at the first century church 6-27

Feast of Passover, Unleavened Bread, First Fruits

- **Notes - Doctrine of the Pharisees and of the Sadducees:**
- **The Pharisees:**
 - The Pharisees were mostly middle-class businessmen.
 - Were in contact with the common man.
 - The Pharisees were held in much higher esteem by the common man than the Sadducees.
 - Were a minority in the Sanhedrin and held a minority number of positions as priests.
 - They seemed to control the decision making of the Sanhedrin far more than the Sadducees
 - Had the support of the people.
- **Religiously, they accepted the written Word as inspired by God.**
- At the time of Christ's earthly ministry, this would have been what is now our Old Testament.
- **But they also gave equal authority to oral tradition** and attempted to defend this position by saying it went all the way back to Moses.

A look at the first century church 6-28

Feast of Passover, Unleavened Bread, First Fruits

- **Notes - Doctrine of the Pharisees and of the Sadducees:**
- These traditions added to God's Word, which is forbidden ([Deuteronomy 4:2](#)), and the Pharisees sought to strictly obey these traditions along with the Old Testament.
- The Gospels abound with examples of the Pharisees treating these traditions as equal to God's Word ([Matthew 9:14](#); [15:1-9](#); [23:5](#); [23:16](#), [23](#), [Mark 7:1-23](#); [Luke 11:42](#)).
- Pharisees did remain true to God's Word in reference to certain other important doctrines.
- **The Pharisees believed the following:**
 - 1. God controlled all things, individual decisions contributed to the course of a person's life.
 - 2. They believed in the resurrection of the dead ([Acts 23:6](#)).
 - 3. They believed in an afterlife, with appropriate reward and punishment
 - 4. They believed in the existence of angels and demons ([Acts 23:8](#)).
- Though the Pharisees were rivals of the Sadducees, they managed to set aside their differences on one occasion—the trial of Christ.
- It was at this point that the Sadducees and Pharisees united to put Christ to death ([Mark 14:53](#); [15:1](#); [John 11:48-50](#)).

A look at the first century church 6-29

Feast of Passover, Unleavened Bread, First Fruits

- *) note 1 information from the book: “Free at Last”, by Larry Huch, ISBN 978-0-88368-428-3
- **) note 2 information from the book: “Healing the wounded heart”, Removing obstacles to intimacy with God, by Thom Gardner ISBN 13: 978-0-7684-2326-6
- END - “Passover, Unleavened Bread, Day of Firstfruits, 3 “connected” feasts”